VOL. IX ISSUE 1

CITIZENS COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS NEWS

GET THE FACTS
FIGHT BACK

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SPANISH SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS CCHR'S RIGHT TO

TAKING ACTION

Make Your Mark

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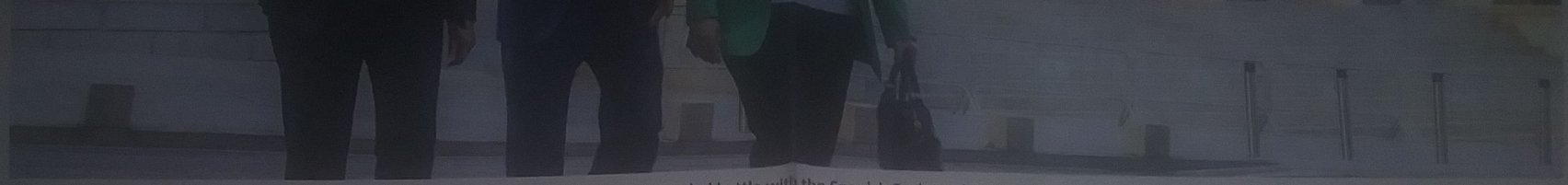

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SPANISH SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS CCHR'S RIGHT TO SPEAK THE TRUTH

The Spanish Society of Psychiatry attempted to muzzle CCHR with a lawsuit. The final judgment is a victory for freedom of expression and the right to speak the truth.

For more than two decades, Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) Spain has waged a relentless campaign to raise public awareness about psychiatric abuses. Their actions have included staging Industry of Death Traveling Exhibits across the country and organizing protest marches. They further sounded the alarm on a sixfold increase in prescriptions for dangerous ADHD drugs and put this disturbing fact on the agenda for the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. In a country where 16 percent of the population reported having taken a psychotropic drug in the last year and 61 percent consider mental health the nation's greatest health concern, CCHR's mission is vital.

The Spanish Society of Psychiatry didn't see it that way. For years they tried to muzzle CCHR, running their own campaign to discredit the group. In a letter published in the Journal of

The Spanish Society of Psychiatry expressed their outrage by taking CCHR to court, claiming CCHR documentaries had "injured the right to honor psychiatrists" and asking for the destruction of all CCHR documentaries, printed materials and websites and a permanent order that CCHR never talk about psychiatry again.

When CCHR provided evidence that every statement in these materials is factual and accurate, the Spanish Supreme Court unanimously dismissed the case and issued a press release, saying, "The publications deal with a matter of undoubted general interest, which is the debate on certain practices in the field of psychiatry and, in particular, on involuntary commitment, use of psychotropic drugs, especially when patients are children or adolescents, or surgical

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1. Informing others of the truth about psychiatric abuses in the mental health industry.
2. Documenting abuse cases.
3. Assisting with criminal prosecution against psychiatrists.
4. Taking psychiatrists to civil court for damages caused by malpractice.
5. Litigating against the institutions that trained psychiatrists in false diagnoses and dangerous abusive practices.
6. Lobbying your legislature to prevent new laws that would enable coercive or harmful "mental health" practices.
7. Working to enact new legislation to protect human rights in the field of mental health.

No matter your profession, no matter where you are, there is a place for you in this crusade.

Help us stop the abuse.

To find out how, please email us at advocacy@cchr.org.

SPEAK THE TRUTH

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The Spanish Society of Psychiatry didn't see it that way. For years they tried to muzzle CCHR, running their own campaign to discredit the group. In a letter published in the *Journal of the Spanish Association of Neuropsychiatry*, one psychiatrist wrote, "It is urgent to put an end to this smear campaign," referring to the fully fact-based Industry of Death Exhibit.

CCHR persisted, distributing materials to members of the medical and legal professions, reaching out to government officials and staging events to expose the truth about psychiatry.

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A UN committee invited CCHR Spain to its inaugural session in Geneva to showcase CCHR's victory as an example for the world to follow. An expert from the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities publicly commended: "Your triumph marks a global precedent for human rights and justice."

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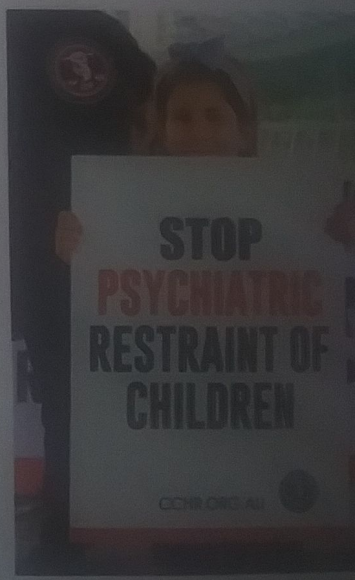

Young advocate participating in a
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Help us stop the abuse.

To find out how, please email us at advocacy@cchr.org.

WE REALLY WANT TO hear FROM YOU

After touring the Industry of Death Traveling Exhibit, this is what people had to say:

AUNT, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

"I never agreed with psychiatric drugging of children. My niece was diagnosed with ADHD at the age of seven and was put on medication. She basically became a zombie—she wouldn't play with the kids at school anymore and she just started isolating herself. I told my brother (her father) that he needed to take her off of it, which luckily he did. I'm definitely going to be sharing the information on CCHR I received today with my brother."

STUDENT, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

"The exhibit was mind-blowing. I felt so sad for all the people who have been through this experience. I was disturbed about ECT and surgical treatments. On the documentary about children, I was surprised they do this to those young kids. People should be made aware of actual diseases rather than these fake ones and troubling treatments."

INDIVIDUAL, NEW YORK CITY, USA

"This exhibit is amazing, full of knowledge and very eye-opening. Before seeing this information, I always thought psychiatry was here to help us. Now I can't believe I fell for this scam all my life! I will spread this news like a wildfire and stop everyone I know from taking unnecessary meds. I feel very touched emotionally from this exhibit tour. Everyone needs to come to see this!"

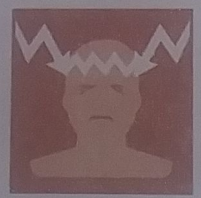
FRIEND OF PSYCH CASUALTY, TORONTO, CANADA

"While I've never had any mental health issues myself or in my family, I always knew in the back of my mind that something was wrong with psychiatry. It was just not in my face yet. Then recently a good friend of mine ended up in psychiatric hands and he's not happy and I'm not happy with how things are progressing. Now I have something I can act on to help him. I cannot thank you enough for being here."

FACTS

THE TRAGIC EFFECTS OF ECT

Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) is torturous "mental healing."



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INFANT MORTALITY RATE

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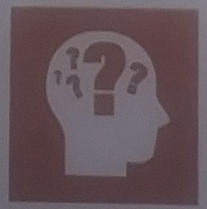

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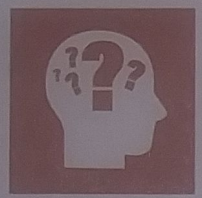

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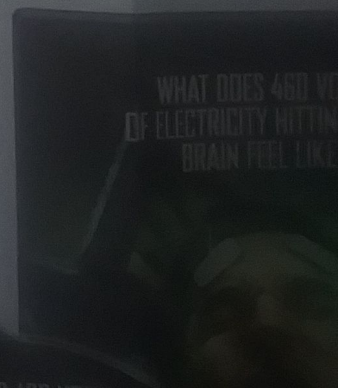

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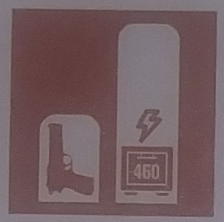

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TIMES

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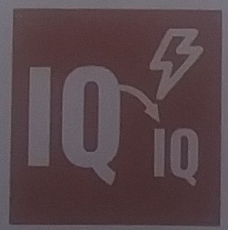

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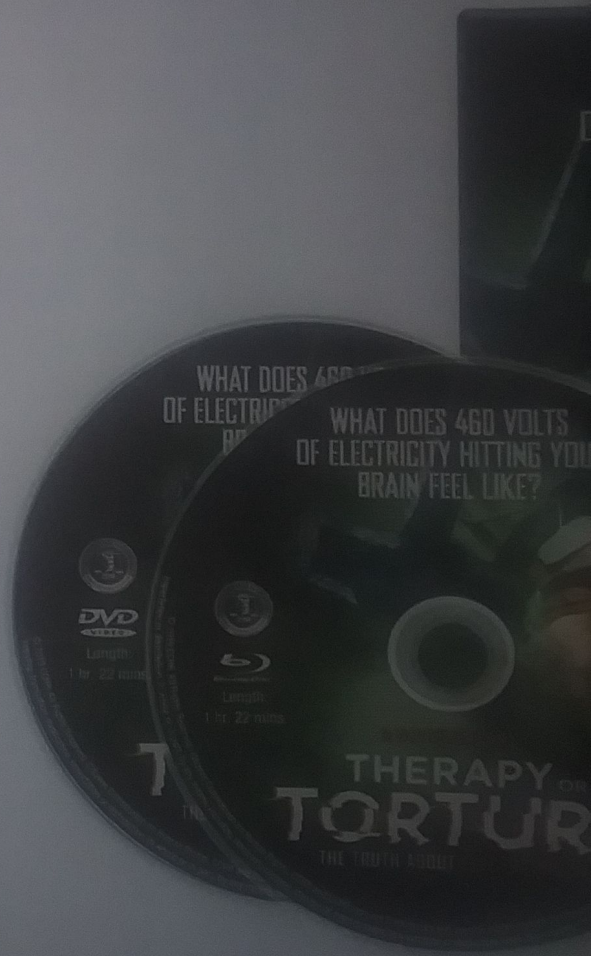

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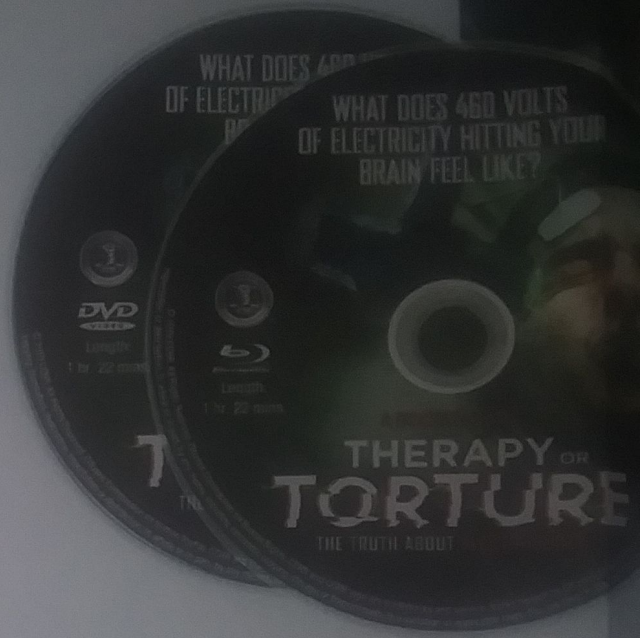

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We are interested in any stories or results you have obtained using CCHR materials, including documentary films or education packages.

Please send your news with any photos and videos of your activities to info@cchr.org or call +1 (323) 467-4242 or 1 (800) 869-2247 (US or Canada).

THERAPY OR TORTURE
THE TRUTH ABOUT ELECTROSHOCK

It hits the head with the force of a 40-pound cinder block dropped seven and a half feet. It's been described by patients as a grenade going off in the body.

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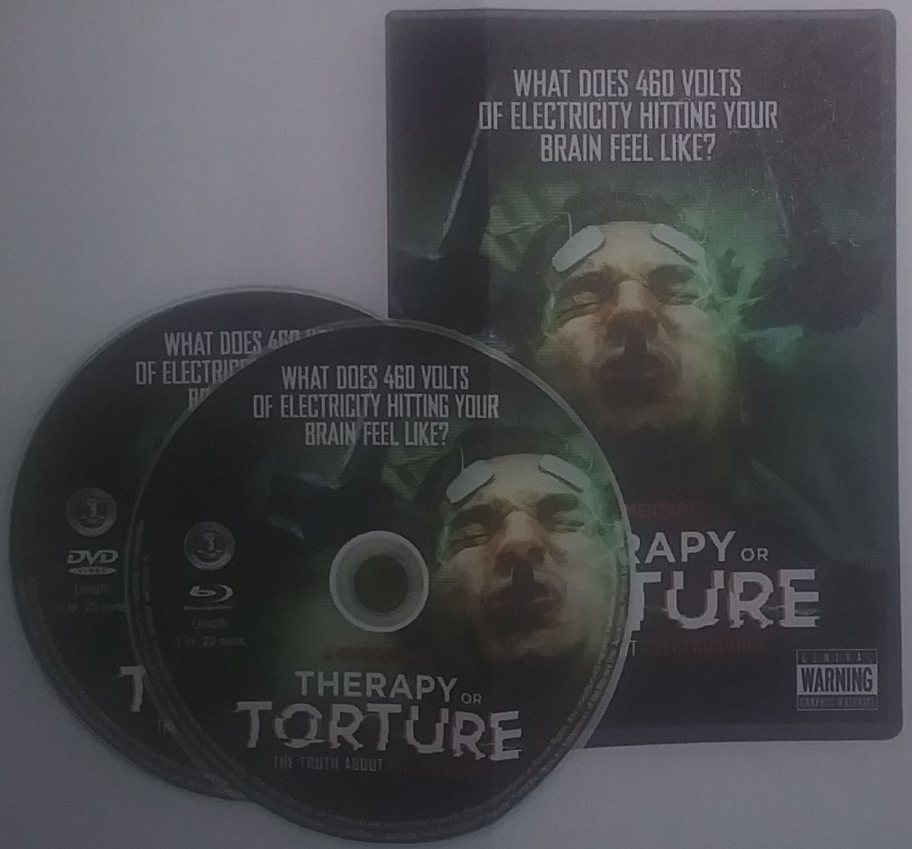
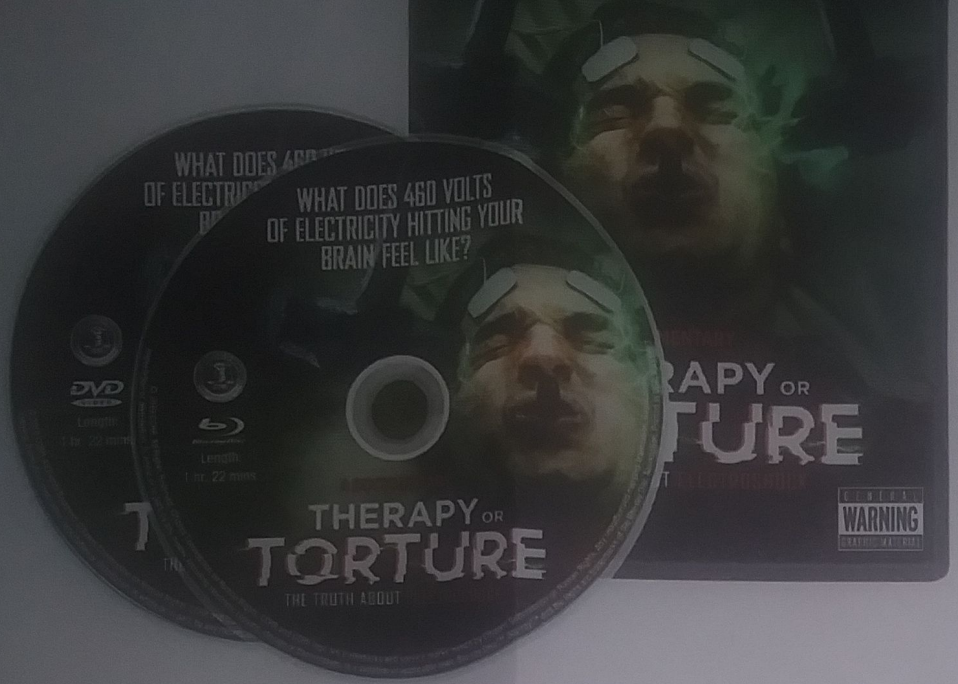


It's called *electroconvulsive therapy* (*ECT*). And, despite what you might think, it's not an antiquated medical practice of some bygone era. In fact, it is inflicted on a million people worldwide every year.

In this gripping exposé, the $5.4 billion ECT business—its history, practitioners and devastating results—is revealed in graphic detail.

How much evidence do we have that ECT is torture? One hour and twenty-two minutes of it.



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Order *Therapy or Torture: The Truth about Electroshock* and other CCHR documentaries at cchr.org/store.

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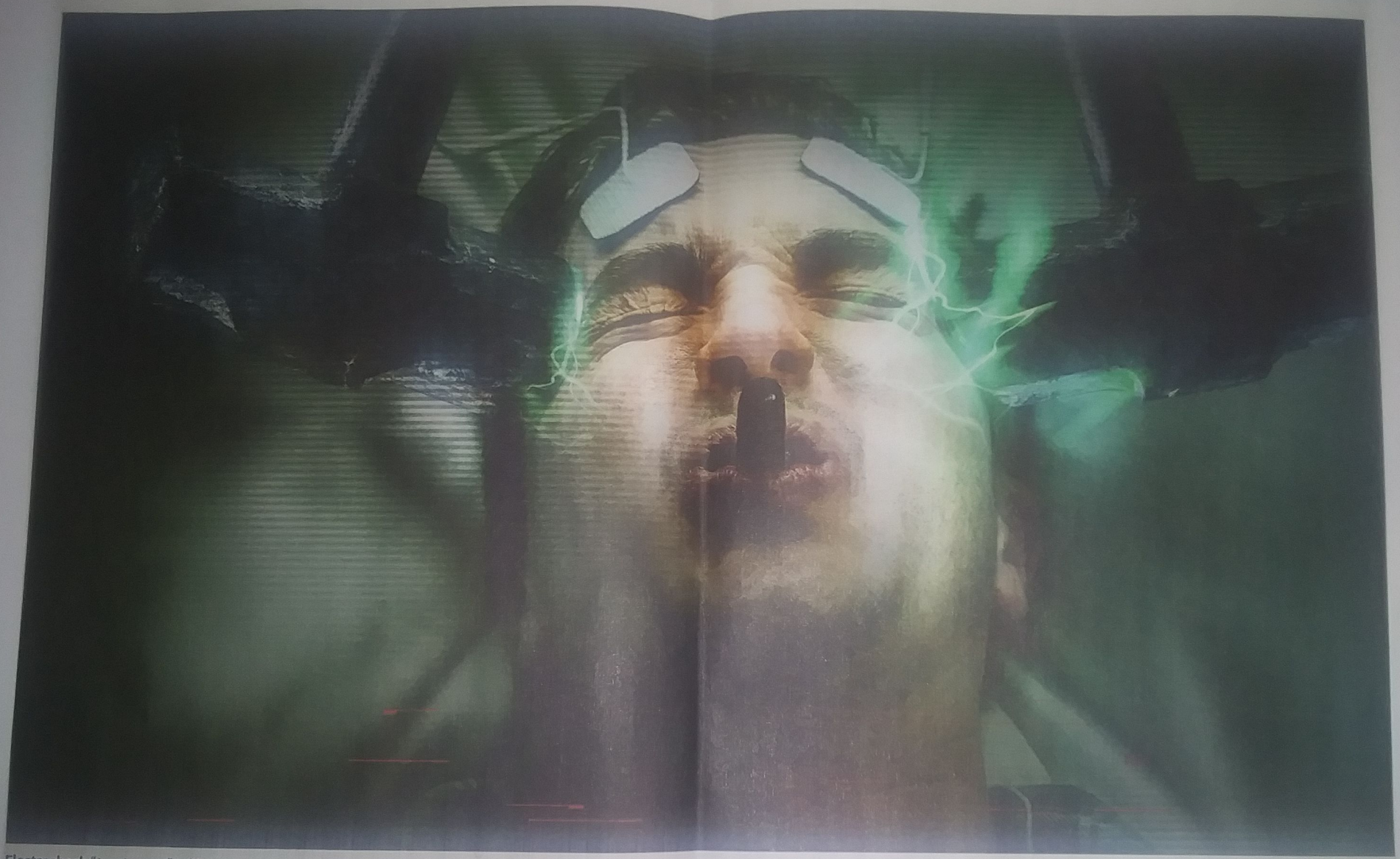
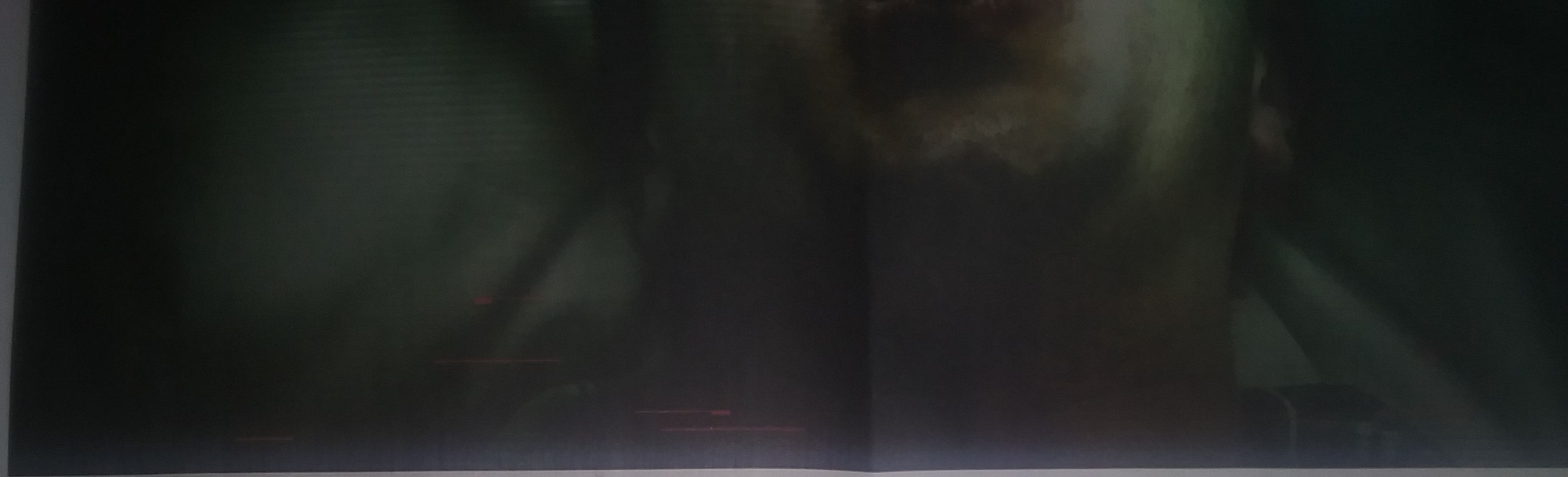


Electroshock "treatment," which many thought was banned decades ago, continues to be used today.

ELECTROSHOCK: PSYCHIATRIC TORTURE POSING AS THERAPY



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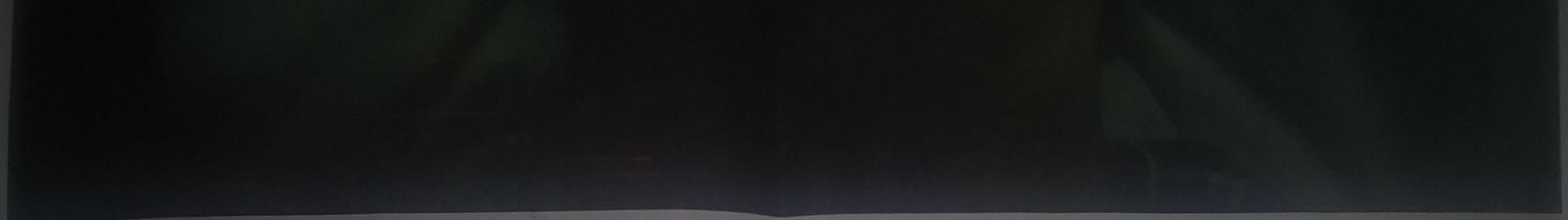

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Most people think electroshock was outlawed decades ago. However, 1.4 million people worldwide are given electroshock each year, including the elderly, pregnant women and children.

During ECT "treatment," electrodes are attached to a patient's scalp and up to 460 volts of electricity are sent tearing through the skull. That is enough voltage to run two elevators.

A seizure is always bad news medically. Thousands of people die each year from injuries sustained during seizures. Yet electroshock deliberately causes a seizure.

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In the 1970s, the world learned the brutality of ECT from the Oscar-winning movie *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. Though the film thoroughly discredited the practice, it didn't disappear. Psychiatrists continue to mount a propaganda offensive in order to maintain ECT's existence, spreading lies about the development of "humane" versions of it. Drugs, they say, relax the patient to prevent serious harm. The drug administered is succinylcholine, which paralyzes all the muscles

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Another "innovation" is to pulse the electricity. This is said to minimize damage. However, according to Ken Castleman, PhD, brain cells are at as much risk of damage and death—if not more so—as with prior forms of ECT.

Lives continue to be ruined daily by ECT. Diana fell into the clutches of psychiatrists after bearing a child. She received a total of 28 shocks. "They just had to keep hitting your head with that hammer.... They took my soul, my mind, my intellect, my emotions. They literally raped my soul."

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END PSYCHIATRIC ABUSE

As a nonprofit mental health industry watchdog, CCHR relies on memberships and donations to carry out its mission to eradicate psychiatric violations of human rights and clean up the field of mental health. To become part of the world's largest movement for mental health change, join the group that has helped enact more than 340 laws protecting citizens from abusive psychiatric practices.

DONATE TODAY
CCHR.ORG/DONATE

IN ITALY, FAMILY IS EVERYTHING

Dr. Vincenza Palmieri has faced down psychiatry by bringing many cases to the Italian courts in the name of protecting children and families from abuse.

Vincenza Palmieri is the founder and president of multiple organizations that protect human rights, families and children; a bestselling author;

Word spread among desperate parents that there was someone willing to fight for their rights. Having earned two bachelor's degrees and four master's degrees,

Vincenza Palmieri is the founder and president of multiple organizations that protect human rights, families and children; a bestselling author; a sought-after speaker; and one of Italy's foremost authorities on psychiatric abuse. She tirelessly crusades to protect children and families in a nation that lives by the motto *la famiglia è tutto*—the family is everything.

Her anti-psychiatric commitment began in the 1980s as a university student. She founded the international program Living without Psychotropic Drugs and, in 2000, she fought against a health law that started what she calls the "psychiatric supply chain."

Her front-line role continued in 2010 after the passage of Italy's Law 170, which mandated screening of schoolkids for "specific learning disabilities." The number of children deemed "learning disabled" tripled in just five years, fueling the psychiatric supply chain. In schools across Italy, such "evaluations" were being conducted without parental consent.

Parents who said no to drugs or evaluations risked having their children taken away, imprisoned in facilities and given psychotropic drugs.

"A child deprived of freedom, a child deprived of his parents—it is inhumane to allow such a thing," says Palmieri.

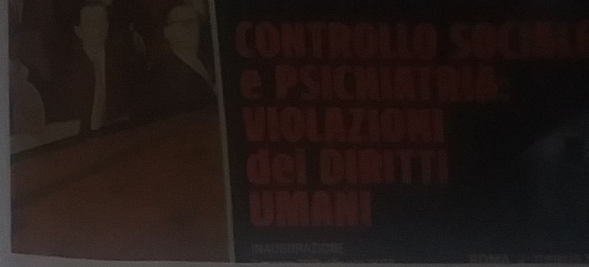
Word spread among desperate parents that there was someone willing to fight for their rights. Having earned two bachelor's degrees and four master's degrees, Palmieri qualified as an expert court witness. In case after case, Palmieri challenged psychiatrists' false diagnoses, saving children from harmful psychotropic drugs and reuniting them with their families.

Palmieri has written 13 books, including three bestsellers detailing this corrupt system, and launched a national campaign to end coercive psychiatry and its power to remove children from their families. She has helped more than 10,000 people get off psychiatric drugs and delivered over 1,000 lectures exposing psychiatric abuse.

Palmieri enlisted legal experts who called out mandatory psychiatric treatment as "a fundamental violation of the Italian Constitution." In 2017, Italy's Supreme Court agreed, issuing its ruling: No child may be screened without parental consent.

This victory inspired Palmieri to dig deeper. She noticed a disturbing pattern that indicated a massive kickback scheme involving foster home administrators and politicians, with psychiatric diagnoses key to the business model.

Public outrage boiled over when a prosecutor in the town of



Dr. Vincenza Palmieri has been working hand in hand with CCH

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Public outrage boiled over when a prosecutor in the town of Bibbiano provided evidence that psychiatrists had manipulated children into making false abuse allegations against their parents. Eighteen people were charged with falsifying reports in order to rip children away from their parents. News of the horrific scheme erupted throughout the nation.

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Palmieri organized the General Conference on the Protection of Minors, where she stressed that this was not an isolated case, but instead symptomatic of psychiatry operating *all over Italy*. She wrote her bestseller *The Psychiatric Supply Chain in Italy*, exposing the vested interests behind the operation. Her work contributed to investigations, arrests and closure of facilities.

Palmieri has thereby identified how to eradicate psychiatric abuse by combating the psychiatric supply chain. "Every time we break a link in this chain, without its 'allies,' psychiatry loses strength and power. Every time we save a child, we cut off the chain. We have already done it and will continue to do it. We can win."

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COMITATO DEI CITTADINI PER I DIRITTI UMANI - Onlus
CONTROLLO SOCIALE e PSICHIATRIA: VIOLAZIONI dei DIRITTI UMANI
INAUGURAZIONE
ROMA 2 - 11 marzo 2018
UN VIAG
AVVERTIMENTO
MATERIALE VISIVO
I cosiddetti "trattamenti" della psichiatria sono tristemente famosi. Alcuni psichiatri sostengono di aver cambiato i propri metodi. Questa mostra scioccante vi metterà di fronte alla realtà dei fatti. Toccherà a voi decidere.

Dr. Vincenza Palmieri has been working hand in hand with CCHR to denounce psychiatric abuses.

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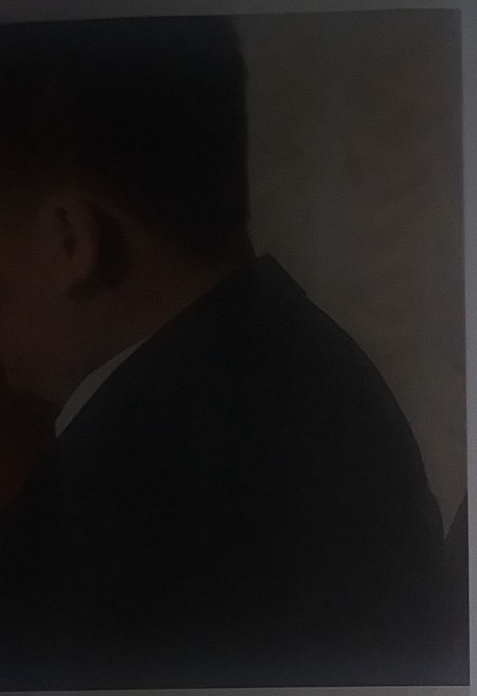

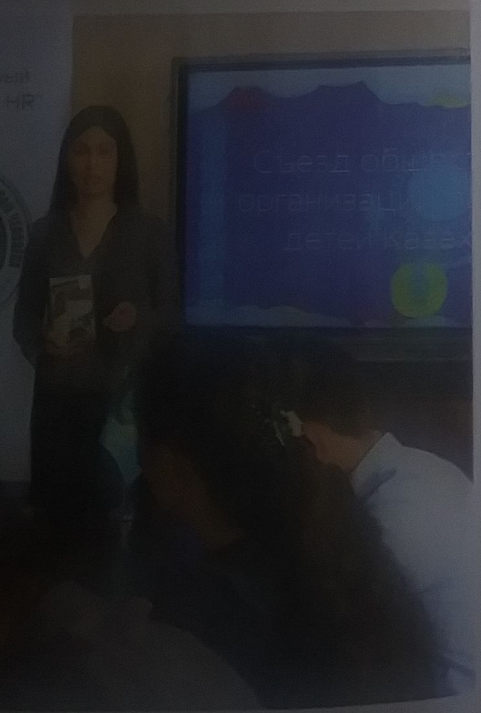

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DEFENDING PARENTAL RIGHTS IN KAZAKHSTAN

CCHR Kazakhstan fights back, protecting children and families from potential psychiatric abuses.

Following a letter from the President of Kazakhstan on the rise of domestic violence in the nation, six Members of Parliament drafted a bill.

While protective measures were needed, CCHR Kazakhstan saw a bigger threat from the proposed bill: a likely increase in psychiatric abuses in the field of mental health. Specifically, children could be sent to psychiatric facilities and administered dangerous psychotropic drugs without parental consent. And another clause implied children could be turned over to foster care facilities known for using punitive measures along with psychotropic drugs.

CCHR volunteers immediately held a series of meetings and presentations with governmental representatives and media to enlighten them on the risks of ratifying the bill. CCHR and allied groups gathered more than 50,000 in-person signatures and letters calling for the President to revoke it. CCHR launched a social media campaign that educated over two million people on the negative repercussions the bill would have on children and families.

Finally, CCHR met with the six MPs who initiated the bill. Persuaded by the data and the public outcry, the MPs wrote a letter to the Speaker of the Mazhilis—the lower house of the Parliament of Kazakhstan—requesting the bill be revoked. This was enough for the Speaker, who declared the bill canceled, marking one more win for children and families.

CCHR Kazakhstan alerted legislators to mental health clauses in a proposed law that could have subjected parents and children to psychiatric abuse.